

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A device for protecting an exterior wall of a building and a ground area adjacent to the exterior wall from spillage of heating oil during and after filling of a heating oil tank that is located within the building, wherein the heating oil tank includes a fill tube that extends from the oil tank through the exterior wall, the device comprising:
 - a panel that is adapted to attach to the exterior wall, wherein the panel includes a first hole that is adapted to allow the fill tube to extend through the first hole;
 - a basin that is adapted to catch any heating oil that spills out of the fill tube wherein, the basin is attached to a lower portion of the panel; and,
 - a means for attaching the panel to the exterior wall.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein the panel further includes a second hole that is adapted to allow a vent tube to extend through the second hole.
3. The device of claim 1, wherein the panel and the basin are made of a metallic material.
4. The device of claim 1, wherein the means for attaching the panel to the exterior wall includes one or more screws.
5. The device of claim 1, wherein the panel is 14-20 inches wide and 24-36 inches in height.

6. The device of claim 1, wherein the basin has a holding capacity of 8 ounces to 1 gallon.
7. The device of claim 1, wherein the basin has an open top portion that is wider than a lower portion of the basin.
8. The device of claim 1, wherein the first hole includes a washer for protecting and securing the fill tube.
9. The device of claim 2, wherein the second hole includes a washer for protecting and securing the vent tube.
10. A housing that is adapted to enclose a heating oil fill tube that extends from a heating oil tank through a wall of a structure, wherein the housing protects the wall and a ground underneath the fill tube, the housing comprising:
 - a top;
 - a bottom, wherein the bottom acts as a catch pan that is adapted to catch any heating oil that spills during filling of the heating oil tank;
 - a left side and a right side, wherein the left and right sides extend from the top to the bottom of the housing;
 - a door, wherein the door covers a front of the housing, the door having a handle for opening and closing the door, and one or more hinges attached to one side of the door and to one of the sides of the housing; and,
 - a back side, wherein the back side extends from the top to the bottom of the housing, the back side having a first hole that allows passage of the fill tube

therethrough and into an interior of the housing, the back side also including an attachment means for attaching the housing to the wall.

11. The housing of claim 10, wherein the back side further includes a second hole that is adapted to allow a vent tube to extend through the second hole.

12. The housing of claim 10, wherein the top, the bottom, the sides, the door and the back side are made of a metallic material, and wherein a first seal is provided along a lower edge of the top and a second seal is provided along an upper edge of the bottom.

13. The housing of claim 10, wherein the means for attaching the housing to the wall includes one or more screws.

14. The housing of claim 10, wherein the housing is 18-24 inches wide and 32-40 inches in height.

15. The housing of claim 10, wherein the bottom has a holding capacity of 16 ounces to 2 gallons.

16. The housing of claim 12, wherein the seals are made of a non-metallic material including plastic and rubber.

17. The housing of claim 10, wherein the first hole includes at least one washer for protecting and securing the fill tube.

18. The housing of claim 11, wherein the second hole includes at least one washer for protecting and securing the vent tube.